

**House File 291 - Introduced**

HOUSE FILE 291

BY WILLS

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to the statute of limitations for prosecution  
2 of certain misdemeanors involving wildlife and hunting and  
3 fishing.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 802.4, Code 2015, is amended to read as  
2 follows:

3 **802.4 Simple misdemeanor —~~ordinance~~.**

4 1. A prosecution for a simple misdemeanor or violation of a  
5 municipal or county rule or ordinance shall be commenced within  
6 one year after its commission.

7 2. Notwithstanding subsection 1, a prosecution for a  
8 violation of chapter 481A or 483A that is a simple misdemeanor  
9 shall be commenced within two years after discovery of the  
10 violation.

11 EXPLANATION

12 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with  
13 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

14 This bill provides that the statute of limitations for  
15 prosecution for a violation of Code chapter 481A (wildlife  
16 conservation) or Code chapter 483A (fishing and hunting  
17 licenses, contraband, and guns) that is a simple misdemeanor is  
18 within two years after discovery of the violation. Currently,  
19 the statute of limitations for prosecution of a simple  
20 misdemeanor is within one year after commission of the offense.